

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /165 W

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R 080650Z AUG 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2204

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1336

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG TA CH ETRD

SUBJECT: JAPANESE OIL IMPORTS FROM PRC

REF: TOKYO 9867

1. RECENT CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN USLO OFFICERS AND THE JAPANESE DCM AND COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR HAVE YIELDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT PRC OIL EXPORTS TO JAPAN IN 1974.

A) AS OF NOW, THE JAPANESE ARE CHEDULED TO IMPORT 4 (FOUR) MILLION TONS OF PRC CRUDE OIL THIS YEAR. OF THIS TOTAL, 1.3 MILLION TONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED, AND NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW UNDERWAY IN PEKING TO FIX THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRICE OF THE ADDITIONAL 2.7 MILLION TONS. THE PRICE OF

INDONESIAN MINAS CRUDE, WHICH THE JAPANESE EMBOFFS PUT AT DOLS 12.60 PER TON, IS BEING USED AS A REFERENCE PRICE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

B) THE CHINESE HAVE INDICATED TO THE TWO JAPANESE IMPORTING GROUPS CONCERNED THAT THEY CAN ACTUALLY PROVIDE A TOTAL OF FIVE MILLION TONS THIS YEAR, THOUGH ANY AMOUNT BEYOND THAT WOULD BE OUT OF THE QUESTION DUE TO CONSTRAINTS CAUSED BY LIMITED PRC TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND SHIPMENT FACILITIES. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THE JAPANESE WILL DECIDE TO CONTRACT FOR THE ADDITIONAL ONE MILLION TONS.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HEARD THAT PRC OIL EXPORTS TO JAPAN WERE SCHEDULED TO BE AS HIGH AS FOUR MILLION TONS, AND THAT THE FIGURE COULD ACTUALLY GO HIGHER. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT PRC OFFICIALS AT TACHING RECENTLY TOLD VISITING BRITISH JOURNALIST CLAIRE HOLLINGWORTH THAT CHINA WOULD SUPPLY FIVE MILLION TONS OF OIL TO JAPAN THIS YEAR. THE OFFICIALS ALSO SAID THAT TOTAL PRC PETROLEUM PRODUCTION WOULD RISE BY 31 PERCENT IN 1974.
BRUCE

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